GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2676
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2005
CLOSURE OF INDUSTRIES NOT CLEARED UNDER ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT, 1986
Rawat Shri Kamla Prasad;Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hon'ble Supreme Court has recently ordered for closure of many industrial and mining units across the country for not taking the mandatory clearance under the Environment (Protection) Act,1986 ;

(b) if so, the details of the industrial and mining units of which Supreme Court has ordered for closure;

(c) whether the Union Government has since taken any concrete steps to ensure compliance of orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIAN MEENA)

(a) & (b): The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its order dated 21.02.2005 in W.P. (Civil) No.460 of 2004, Goa Foundation Versus Union of India had directed the Government of India to issue requisite order within a period of 10 days directing closure of defaulting units continuing to operate in violation of environmental laws.

(c) & (d) : In pursuant to the above order, the Central Government in exercise of the powers conferred upon it under Section (5) of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, had directed on 2nd March, 2005 all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to close down all defaulting units continuing to operate in violation of environmental laws. This operation of the above order, however, has been stayed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court through its subsequent order dated 11.3.2005 till the next date of hearing in Writ Petition (Civil) No.460 of 2004.